

# School Problem Is Major Issue In Legislature

By VINCENT THOMAS  
Assemblyman, 68th District

A really king-sized headache confronts both the budget and special sessions of our 1964 Legislature. That is the financing and organization of our far-flung public school system. Originally the problem seemed pretty well confined to the money question, but two unexpected developments opened the door to the hotly debated issue of how many semi-autonomous school districts California can afford to maintain.

State support of the public school system has bulked large in the over-all state fiscal picture for the past 30 years or so. It accounts for roughly one-third of general fund expenditures. Growth in enrollment alone will shove the total school grants close to \$900 million for 1964-65, but there is enormous pressure from educationally-oriented individuals and groups for still more state funds.

TO A CERTAIN extent, this pressure is based on the contention that the state's share of total public school costs, even though it has constantly increased in dollars, has actually fallen from more than 50 per cent of the total 10 years ago, to around 42 per cent for recent years. Some experts dispute this assertion, and declare that on the basis of current operating costs alone, the state share has reached 50 per cent in only seven of the last thirty years.

The administration program for school support submitted to our budget session calls for an automatic increase of \$51 million to meet growth needs, plus an additional \$25 million already earmarked, which requires no further legislative action. On the agenda for the

special session is a request for a further \$35 million in new money, plus enactment of the controversial basic county-wide school tax, estimated to produce \$27.5 million more. The total new money involved in this whole program is estimated as \$138.5 million, but critics claim this is not enough, and call for additional funds of from \$50 to \$100 million. So this money issue is certain to be hotly fought.

WHEN THE school district organization problem was injected into this already complicated situation, opposing forces were lined up for a really titanic struggle over the future of our California public schools.

First, an Assembly leader and a number of his colleagues introduced a bill which calls for consolidation of all the existing 1585 school districts into county wide districts as of July 1, 1965. Only existing city unified districts would be exempt, so the net effect would be to cut back the number of districts to 170. In most counties, this change would automatically result in a county wide tax. The bill would also change existing formulas for distribution of state funds.

The legislative halls were still echoing with cries of anguish over this proposal when our Legislative Analyst's report was released. In his closely reasoned long-range study of school financing, he also recommended reduction of school districts—to 58 county-wide units—but spread over a five year period. He also advocates, as part of his scheme, immediate imposition of the county-wide tax.

So there we have it, and it's sure to be a long, tough battle before any decisions can be reached.

## ECC to Install Computer Facility Center in Fall

Installation and operation of a computer facility for instructional uses in mathematics, engineering and business education will begin in the fall of 1964, Henry Mansfield Jr., assistant director for mathematics and engineering at El Camino College, announced this week.

Mathematics instructors Sidney Bingham, Irwin Boxer and S. James Clark have made extensive studies of computer facilities and courses in order to develop curricula which will meet needs of industry and four-year colleges and universities.

"An understanding of the principles of computers and actual experiences in solving problems by the use of a computer is now an essential part of the educational program for all students in mathematics, engineering, science and business," Mansfield said.

EQUIPMENT planned for the computer center will include an IBM 1620 Computer with Model 1021 Additional Instruction unit, a Model 1285 Auto-

matic divider unit, a Model 1632 Card Read and Punch Adapter, a model 4650 Indirect Addressing unit with a model 1622 Card Read and Punch unit.

For the division of business education, Willis Weber, assistant director, is planning a complete two-year program in business data processing.

Many programs planned for the center will, if needed, make use of a Pace Model TR-20 Analog Computer with X-Y plotter and repetitive operation features which will permit output to be viewed on an oscilloscope.

"THE DEVELOPMENT of using the Analog in conjunction with the digital computer is undergoing rapid advancement in varied fields," Bingham said. "For example, some interesting work is being conducted at the University of Utah in medical research which enables viewers to pinpoint danger areas in body systems," he added.

In addition to instructional uses, the El Camino facility will provide services for the college. Individual faculty research, instructional research, institutional research and analysis of student personnel data may be programmed for the computer.

Plans for a permanent computer center are also being made. A future mathematics and engineering building will provide space for the facility along with space for nuclear science, metallurgy and anthropology laboratories.

## Schools Name Child Care Supervisor

Mrs. Dorothy K. Snyder has been named supervisor-in-charge of all Los Angeles City Schools child care centers in the south and harbor areas.

In her new assignment, Mrs. Snyder will be responsible for 26 child care centers and pre-school activities of more than 1,500 youngsters. She has been a child care center teacher for more than 20 years.

She is a resident of San Pedro and an active member of the PTA. Mrs. Snyder is the mother of two boys who are 16 and 14 years of age.

## Gas Co. Announces 1964 Budget

Southern California Gas Co. has announced plans for a \$1,355,000 capital budget for 1964 to meet the continuing growth of the southwest division service area.

The southwest region will get \$23 million of the budget, projected to serve 1.8 million customers in eight southland counties.

"Our continuing program of expansion is designed to keep abreast of the natural gas needs of all the people in this area," G. M. Babbe, division manager, said. He also pointed out the larger budget reflects the gas company's determination to provide the finest possible service to customers.

A total of \$317,000 is budgeted for 96,000 feet of mains and an additional \$678,000 for other facilities to serve new customers in the area.

The balance of the division's budget will be used for construction and remodeling, purchase and replacement of equipment, tools, and land.



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**Sue Bee Honey** **69¢**  
Keep these on the shelf for tasty dips or fritters! 7½ oz. can  
**Snow's Minced Clams** **29¢**  
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**Elberta Peaches** **29¢**  
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KOUNTY KIST WHOLE KERNEL GOLDEN  
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2 12 oz. cans **29¢**

Ida Treat French Fried Potatoes for cooks in a hurry!  
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To round out many a quick delicious Lenten meal!  
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Looking for something hot and delicious to serve? Try this. 15 oz. can  
**Snow's Clam Chowder** **4 for \$1**  
Liquid. Here's an easy way to whiten winter-weary linens! half gal.  
**Magic Chef Bleach** **29¢**

LADY BETTY  
**PRUNE JUICE**  
quart bottle **39¢**

Tempting. Salad trick: Marinate and serve with onions! tall 303 can  
**French Green Beans** **6 for \$1**  
Try this hearty, filling dish with old-world flavor! jumbo 40 oz. can  
**IXL Lasagna** **69¢**  
Deluxe. Excellent choice for quick hot meals! Save 19¢. 20 oz. frozen  
**Oh Boy Pizza** **79¢**  
Iris. Company-meal stretchers: Green Beans with Mushrooms!  
**Iris Cut Green Beans** **25¢**

**PASTA ROSA**  
FETUCCINI, LINGUINE, SPAGHETTINI  
1-lb. pkg. **29¢** each

Concentrated  
**SALT TABLETS**  
giant pkg. **69¢**

CANADIAN VAT IMPORTED  
**CANADIAN WHISKEY**  
Save 41¢ **\$3.98** full fifth

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LEO'S BEEF, HAM, SPICY BEEF, CORNED BEEF  
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GARDEN FRESH  
**ROMAINE LETTUCE**  
2 heads **19¢**



A winner! Filled with cherries and almonds! reg. 79¢  
**Race Track Coffee Cake** ea. 69¢  
Our own recipe, with pineapple and raisins! reg. 69¢  
**Bran Muffins** dozen 63¢  
Fresh from our Magic Chef ovens! Crisp and tender!  
1-lb. Loaf French Bread loaf 33¢

For zesty, man-sized sandwiches! reg. \$1.98 lb.  
**Regular Pastrami** lb. \$1.59  
Fill 'em up with our tasty homebaked beans! reg. 39¢  
**Our Own Baked Beans** lb. 29¢  
½ lb. lox with ¼ lb. creamed cheese! reg. \$1.84  
**Lox & Creamed Cheese** \$1.58